

three female jurors, hostage. During the escape, a gunfight began. With bravery and courage, Judge Thomas was able to grab one of the assailant's guns to protect himself and the other hostages. Judge Thomas was shot near his spine which left him paralyzed from the waist down. Judge Thomas returned to work five weeks later. Related to the injury, he would suffer from kidney problems, pneumonia, and other complications throughout his life; but he continued to serve on the bench until 1999, showing strength and resilience few will ever know.

Mr. Speaker, the depth of Judge Thomas's service to his local community as well as his commitment to his family and the judiciary has left a positive legacy to many, and he will be dearly missed. It is therefore appropriate that we pay tribute to him today and honor his memory.

HONORING COACH CRAIG
ENGELBRECHT FOR HIS INDUC-
TION INTO THE MISSOURI BAS-
KETBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION
HALL OF FAME ON SATURDAY,
APRIL 22, 2017

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of Missouri's Third District, Coach Craig Engelbrecht, who was inducted into the Missouri Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame on Saturday, April 22, 2017 at the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame in Springfield, MO. Coach Engelbrecht dedicated 33 years of his life as an educator at Eugene High School, and has spent 27 of those years coaching. Coach Engelbrecht recently celebrated his 500th varsity win, and is deserving of membership in the Hall of Fame.

Coach Engelbrecht's childhood was spent in the Eugene area and he always wanted to return to that area to plant his roots. He grew up in a family that served the community by working in the school system. His mother taught in Russellville for 31 years and his Father was a custodian after a career at MFA Feed Mill in Eugene. After graduating from high school in 1979, Coach Engelbrecht spent his college years at University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg. In 1983, he graduated with his degree in Physical Education and a minor in speech/drama.

In 1984, Coach Engelbrecht started his teaching career at Russellville and shortly thereafter began his coaching career. During his time at Eugene, he taught many subjects including English, Speech, and Drama, and was even responsible for putting on the annual spring play with his students. Eventually, Coach Engelbrecht began teaching Physical Education, and knowing the importance of being physically active, he always encouraged his students to participate in all activities and classes.

In 1990, Coach Engelbrecht became the head varsity boys basketball coach. He knew it was vitally important to establish a stable and hard-working program that would lay the groundwork for success on the court. The mantra for the Eugene basketball team is this:

"we play hard, we play smart, we play together, and we play fast." Coach Engelbrecht encourages his teams to use this mantra on the basketball court and in real life. He has instilled in his students and players a mentality to never quit and to always strive to achieve their goals. Coach Engelbrecht has built many relationships with his students and enjoys seeing many of them take his words of encouragement to heart and apply it to their daily lives. Additionally, he enjoys seeing former students and players begin basketball coaching and refereeing careers of their own.

Coach Engelbrecht's family is involved in the education field as well. The Eldon Career Center is currently under the direction of his wife, Kelli. The Eldon School District is where his son, Christian, is a paraprofessional. His daughter, Katelyn has played basketball and after her graduation will attend college at her father's alma mater, University of Central Missouri—Warrensburg.

Throughout his 33 year career in education, Coach Engelbrecht has seen God take care of him. He acknowledges the great support system he has and knows that without that support, he would not have achieved his level of success on the basketball court.

With his retirement from teaching, Coach Engelbrecht will be able to spend more time with his family. Kelli, Christian, and Katelyn will enjoy the additional moments they have with their beloved father. Despite his retirement from teaching, Coach Engelbrecht has not decided to hang up his coaching jersey just yet as he continues to coach boys varsity basketball at Eugene High School.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Coach Craig Engelbrecht on this induction into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame by the Missouri Basketball Coaches Association and on his retirement from teaching after 33 years of improving the daily lives of all those at Eugene High School, whether it be in the classroom or in the gym.

TRIBUTE TO CINDY AND DICK RYBA

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Cindy and Dick Ryba of Treynor, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on March 31, 2017.

Cindy and Dick's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

HONORING FIRST STATE BANK IN
ST. CHARLES FOR ITS 150TH AN-
NIVERSARY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a business in my district, First State Bank in St. Charles on its 150th Anniversary. This celebration will be held on May 10, 2017.

In 1867, First State Bank planted its roots on Main Street in St. Charles, Missouri. First State Bank has been successful for one and a half centuries, because, among other things, customer satisfaction is a top priority and ownership of the bank is shared only between local shareholders and bank employees. Since its humble beginning, First State Bank has been an independent and locally-owned community bank serving St. Charles and St. Louis residents and businesses. First State Bank's fundamental approach to customer service is simple; treat every customer like a person, not just a number. This personalized service shows the dedication this bank has to its customers and the community. First State Bank prides itself as an ESOP (Employee Stock Ownership Plan) business, which allows for the employees to own part of the bank. As a bank that is privately-held, the institution answers only to its employees and local, private stockholders. This means that decisions can be made that are in the best interest of the customers and the local community.

The growth of First State Bank has been steady and with that growth it now has 224 employees. In 2016 alone, it hired 48 new employees. First State Bank strives to maintain a philosophy to ignite energy and improve customer service and increase employee retention. This philosophy encourages the employees in four areas when it comes to serving the customers: play, make their day, be there, and to choose their attitudes.

The commitment that First State Bank has to the community is commendable. Over 66 local and national non-profit organizations benefit from charitable donations by First State Bank. Employees are encouraged to volunteer and have committed their time and talents to 32 local non-profit boards. Other organizations that appreciate First State Bank's generous employees are Oasis Food Pantry and Habitat for Humanity. Additionally, "Team FSB" willingly coordinates school supplies, winter coats, food drives, and collects monetary donations for various non-profits throughout the year.

I ask you to join me in recognizing First State Bank on their 150th Anniversary. First State Bank is truly a community bank.

IN RECOGNITION OF SERGEANT DAVID WELSH

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Sergeant David Welsh of the Springfield Township Police Department. Sergeant Welsh

has demonstrated a steadfast devotion to the community through his work, often putting his own safety at risk in order protect others. Sergeant Welsh also served his country and community as a member of the United States Coast Guard Reserve for over 20 years.

As a pillar of Springfield Township, Sergeant Welsh has rightly been nominated as Officer of the Year as part of the 25th Annual Springfield Loyalty Day.

I thank Sergeant Welsh for his service.

30 YEARS OF SERVICE—REVEREND ANZALONE

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Reverend Alan Anzalone, born in Kansas City and raised in Deepwater, Missouri. Alan has dedicated 30 years of service to Brownington Baptist Church.

From an early age, Alan committed himself to bettering his community, helping those in need and setting an example for his peers through excelling in academics, athletics and school spirit. At age 17, Alan answered his calling from God and became Pastor of his church. Not only has he led followers to the Faith but he has also guided the renovation of the Church over the years to better suit the community's needs. I am honored to share my gratitude and respect for Reverend Alan Anzalone, and his generosity and service are an inspiration to us all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE JOHNSON

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, on April 20, I attended a meeting at the White House to discuss important issues and policy to my home state with President Donald Trump.

Because of this meeting I missed Roll Call vote 236 on H.J. Res. 99—Making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes.

Had I been present, I would have voted "Yea" on passage.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. JOHN FRANCIS GIONFRIDDO

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. John Francis Gionfriddo on his graduation from George Mason University and wish him well as he begins the next chapter of his life.

Mr. Gionfriddo was born February 9, 1993 in Fairfax, Virginia to his parents Elizabeth and Joseph Gionfriddo. John was born with a congenital heart defect, and when he was just

three weeks old underwent heart surgery. While doctors were able to repair his heart, John suffered complications after surgery. Since he was young, John has never been intimidated by imposed limitations with regards to his disability and has pursued friendships, work, and schooling without hesitation.

In 1997, John became a big brother to his brother Andrew, and a few years later, his youngest brother, Frank. In 2008, the Gionfriddo family relocated to England where John began high school at the International Community School in London. While living abroad, John enjoyed traveling throughout Europe with his parents and brothers. In 2011, the Gionfriddo family returned to the United States where John attended Herndon High School. Eager to gain professional experience, John began an internship at Dranesville Elementary School as an Assistant to the Librarian, a position he proudly holds to this day.

In 2013, John graduated from Herndon High School and enrolled in the George Mason University Learning into Future Environments (LIFE) Program, a postsecondary education program for young adults with intellectual disabilities. John was extremely active on campus, joining the Special Olympics Basketball Team and serving as a Member of the Best Buddies Program.

Dedicated to expanding his professional skills, John participated in the Congressional Internship Program for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities, and as a result, joined my team in September 2015 where he spent three semesters as a Congressional Intern in my Washington, D.C. Office. In this role, John was responsible for supply inventory, organizing and assigning mail, and assisting staff with day-to-day projects. John's eagerness to help others, dedication to his work, and positive outlook on life were invaluable to my team.

In his free time, John enjoys walking the family dog, Lily, listening to a variety of music, spending time at the family cabin in Pennsylvania, drinking coffee and eating out with family and friends. Throughout his life, John has been dedicated to helping others. In 2014, he was awarded the Jeff Watkins Volunteer of the Summer Award for his work with Fairfax County's Summer Therapeutic Recreation Program. He also serves on the advisory board for The Institute on Disability (IOD) at the University of New Hampshire's film project, "Intelligent Lives".

On May 20, 2017, John will graduate from the George Mason University LIFE Program, an incredible accomplishment. Following graduation, John will begin an exciting career helping others at SourceAmerica, a company dedicated to creating jobs for individuals with disabilities. While we are disappointed Mr. Gionfriddo's time with our office has come to an end, we are excited as he begins this next chapter in his life.

While Mr. Gionfriddo may have joined my office to gain work experience and learn about government, it was truly John who taught my team about compassion, dedication, and what it means to help others. The sky is the limit for John, and I cannot wait to see what he accomplishes in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Mr. John Francis Gionfriddo on his college graduation and wishing him well as he embarks on the next chapter of his life.

TRIBUTE TO JANET AND RICHARD MOORE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Janet and Richard Moore of Council Bluffs, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on April 2, 1967.

Janet and Richard's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, April 28, 2017, I was not present for roll call votes 235, 236 and 237. Had I been present for these votes, I would have voted: Nay on roll call vote 235; Yea on roll call vote 236; and Yea on roll call vote 237.

TRIBUTE TO MARK BRANDENBURG

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mark Brandenburg of Council Bluffs, Iowa, for being inducted into the Thomas Jefferson High School Hall of Fame. Mark is a 1973 graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School in Council Bluffs.

Mark attended Iowa Western Community College and received a degree in mathematics. After graduation, he moved on to earn a bachelor's degree in Management and Human Resources from Bellevue University. Mark's career began at the Omaha Public Power District but he was just getting started. He was eventually elected to the Council Bluffs Community School District Board, served two terms as a State Representative in the Iowa House of Representatives, and currently serves as the Pottawattamie County Recorder. Mark is active in the Council Bluffs community and has worked with the Iowa Western Community College Alumni Association, the Union Pacific Railroad Museum Board, the Senior Center Board, and the Heartland Chapter of the American Red Cross.